Gal. 602. 666. 260 f.

# To the Right Honourable HIS MAJESTIES JUDGES,

## Now Sitting in *Oxon*, &c.

23

*The Humble Petition of* STEPHEN JAY, *Clerk, Rector of* Chinner, *in the County of* Oxon.

*Humbly Sheweth,*

THat one *Titus Brown*, a very lewd and infamous Person, guilty of several Thefts and Burglary, about *January* last, by a forged Licence set up an Ale-House in your Petitioner's Parish, (where two already were) but upon Petition to the Justices of that Division at their private Session, was suppressed according to Law by their Order of *April* the Seventh; and afterwards by the General Sessions at *Oxon*, *April* the Twelfth.

The said *Brown* thus suppres'd, (understanding the little good will born to your Petitioner by one Mr. *Allnut*, for Causes well known to the Countrey) applied himself to the said Justice, who receiving the said *Brown* into his favour, (though himself knew him to be very scandalous, and had been brought before him for Assaulting on the High way with design to Rob, as the said Justice then apprehended;) at *Trinity* Sessions following, on a Certificate in the Name of a Child of Twelve Years Old, very vigorously moved the Bench for a Licence for the said *Brown* (after it had been denied the Day before on the account of the Order made the last Session) and prevailed.

Your Petitioner and Parish much afflicted hereat, applied themselves by Petition to the Honourable Judges of the Assize at *Oxon*, *July* the Fourteenth, who were pleased to refer our Complaints to the Examination of any two Justices of the County, with Order to suppress the said *Brown*, &c.

In pursuance whereof, a meeting was appointed at *Tesworth* on *Saturday*, *July* the Thirtieth past; your Petitioner writing to Justice *Allnut* to be there, and accordingly he the said Mr. *Allnut* appeared, together with Sr. *Thomas Tipping*, to whom was presented the Order of the Judges, with humble desire to Execute the same.

But so it is (may it please your Lordships) that he the said Mr. *Allnut* utterly refused to execute the Order, though moved earnestly by your Petitioner thereto, (Ten Witnesses being present ready to be Examined on Oath against the said *Brown*) but the said Mr. *Allnut* pretending Business left the whole Matter unexamined, to our great Amazement and Charge. And to your Petitioner (telling him only that if we could not have Justice from him, we would have it else-where from his Superiours) *Sirrah*, (said he) *I could find in my Heart to cut your Pate.*

May it please your Lordships; your poor Petitioner (though a Minister) hath yet the Honour to be extracted from a Worshipful Family, and (with all humility be it spoken) is Allyed to the several Families of Three Honourable Members of His Majesties Most Honourable Privy Council. His Father losing an Estate of near 500*l. per annum*, for his Loyalty to his late Majesty. He himself driven to seek Bread in another Kingdom, during the Kings absence; Though by Gods Blessing is now restored to a plentiful Estate: Is Patron, as well as Parson of his Parish, which ingageth him ever to seek the welfare thereof. And doth behave himself in all things as becometh a Minister and a Gentleman; who by his constant Preaching and Exemplary Life hath gain'd in some Dissenters to the Church, and preserves the whole Parish in it: Having owned the Episcopal Government, by being Ordain'd by a Bishop even in *Cromwell's* time. Your Petitioner (dares not Justifie himself before God, yet) is bold towards your Lordships, to hope that Protection and Security will be granted him by your Honours, from such insulting Menaces against a Minister of the Church (how unworthy soever) in the discharge of his Duty, and the suppression of Wickedness in his Parish. And that your Lordships will not suffer so Causeless an Affront to be given him in the publick Yard of an Inn, and before many of his own People and Strangers, to his great Disgrace, on no other Provocation but demanding Justice against a dangerous fellow. *The very Heathen have ever honoured their Priests.*

*Your Petitioner most humbly kneels to your Lordships for Redress, and casts Himself and his Complaint at your Honours Feet, humbly submitting Himself and It, to your Prudent Censure. And does beseech your Lordships to Examine, or Order to be Examined the High Misdemeanours of the said*

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3/6

# To the WORSHIPFUL HIS MAJESTIES JUSTICES,

## For the County of *Oxon.*

*Gentlemen!*

THe Petitioner has not appealed in diſhonour of the Juſtice of the Bench, (there is not a Gentleman on it, that is a really Gentleman, whom he does not worthily eſteem and ſubmit to) but thinks it duty to himſelf to fly the Attaques of an Enemy, whoſe *Will* had ſo great an Influence as Arbitrarily to procure the reſcinding a poſitive Order granted but the Seſſion before; and whoſe Prejudices againſt the Petitioner have gradually encreaſed from theſe remarkable Cauſes:

1. The Petitioner's diſmiſſing *Richard* his Elder Brother (an honeſt plain Man,) from being his Tenant, for Reaſons accountable to any that demand them 1669.

2. An (yet unrooted) Jealouſie that the Petitioner impeached him to the Council at the breaking out of the Plot; when (in a better than Jeſuitical ſence) he was as Innocent as the New Born Child.

3. The Petitioners ſawcy equalizing himſelf with him; when in heat and altercation of words before Forty or Fifty Gentlemen at Dinner, he drop'd this Truth, *That he was as good a Gentleman, as he*; (and cannot as yet recant it.) Beſides, his charging him with indiſcretion in the manage of an Intereſt, the miſcarrying of which he would (very invidiouſly) have foyſted on the Petitioner, 1679.

4. The Petitioner's Neighbours their Voting for thoſe *he* diſfavours occaſion'd (as he fancies) by him; when of a Truth they were voluntarily led by their own Diſcretion and Will. And who are wiſe enough without him to be faithful to their Native Intereſts and Rights, 1680.

*Gentlemen*; *Duty will Oblige you to keep the Peace*; *and Gallantry will prompt you to be generous and juſt to a Stranger, whoſe near* * *Relations fill the Neighbouring Bench*; *who will not take it ſo kindly to have the* Pate cut *of*

* Sir *Jo. Ernle.*
Sir *Edw. Hungerford.*
Sir *Walter Ernle.*
Sir *Gilts Hungerford.*
Sir *Walter St. John.*
Mr. *Daniel.*

Their poor Kinſman,

and your Servant

*S. J.*